



U.S. Department of Justice

Southern District of Indiana

United States Attorney

10 West Market Street

(317)226-6333

*Suite 2100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

TDD (317)226-5438

FAX NUMBERS:

Criminal (317)226-6125

Administration (317)226-5176

Civil (317)226-5027

FLU (317) 226-6133

OCDETF (317)226-5953

March 2, 2005

CONTACT PERSON:

SUSAN W. BROOKS

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**INDIANAPOLIS MAN INDICTED IN INTERNET
ARMED ROBBERY SCHEME**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that DEWAN A. HORNE, 24, Indianapolis, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for robbery and conspiracy under the Hobbs Act and for the brandishing of firearms by his accomplices during the commission of the crimes, following a joint investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Indianapolis Police Department.

The indictment alleges that HORNE would list vintage muscle cars (that he did not own) for auction on the eBay.com website. Buyers would travel to Indianapolis with cash and masked accomplices still at large would rob them at gunpoint when they arrived at a destination to which HORNE would direct them. The conspiracy charge lists a number of

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incomplete transactions in December 2004 and January 2005, one attempted robbery and a completed armed robbery. Two different would-be purchasers from out of state got suspicious and frightened when directed behind a garage on the east side of Indianapolis and left without completing the sale; another left after being shown a car that was not the same as that involved in the eBay negotiations. Two individuals from Nebraska drove off after an attempted hold-up, and a father and son from Georgia and South Carolina were made to lie down at gunpoint while HORNE and the two masked gunmen took more than \$9,000 in cash and equipment from their truck before driving off in HORNE's car.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Mark S. Massa, who is prosecuting the case for the government, HORNE faces a possible prison sentence of 7 years to life and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. The Hobbs Act prohibits interference with interstate commerce by threats or violence and carries a maximum prison term of 20 years. Section 924(c) of Title 18 of the United States Code mandates a minimum sentencing enhancement of 7 years (and up to life in prison) when a firearm is brandished in commission of a crime of violence. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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